

Serial No. 09/982,126

first tube when the second tube is slideably received in the first tube; a lock plate held relative to the outer periphery of the first tube to define a gap therebetween; a second aperture formed in the lock plate; a threaded lock extending through the first and second openings, with the threaded lock being threadably received in one of the first tube and the lock plate; and a pin located in the gap and extending radially from the lock, with the pin preventing the lock from being threaded out of the said one of the first tube and the lock plate, with the lock being insertable into the bore to prevent sliding of the second tube relative to the first tube and being removable from the bore to allow sliding of the second tube relative to the first tube.

Please amend claim 31 as follows:

31. Assembly for an earthworking machine comprising, in combination: a handlebar being generally U-shaped and including first and second legs extending from opposite sides of a center; a mast extending from the center and including a first linear portion having a lower end and an upper end, with the center being spaced from the upper end and extending generally perpendicular to the first linear portion; and a handlebar mount, with the first linear portion being slideably connected generally vertically to the handlebar mount with the first and second legs extending generally horizontally rearward and the center portion extending generally horizontally in a working position, with the first linear portion being slideably connected at an acute angle to vertical to the handlebar mount with the first and second legs extending forward and on opposite sides of the earthworking machine in a storage position.

Please amend claim 32 as follows:

32. Earthworking machine comprising, in combination: a movably supported frame comprising first and second planar side plates, with each side plate having an upper edge and a back edge, a frame plate bent generally perpendicular to the upper edge of one of the side plates, with the frame plate having a free edge welded to the upper edge of the other of the side plates, and an end plate bent generally perpendicular to the back edge of one of the side plates, with the end plate having a free edge welded to the back edge of the other of the side plate, with the plates being interconnected together in a three dimensional configuration without fasteners and with the first and second side plates, the frame plate, and the end plate being formed from two planar elements; a U-shaped handlebar including first and second legs extending from opposite sides of a center; a mast extending from the center and including a first linear portion having a lower end and an upper end, with the center being spaced from the upper end and extending generally

Serial No. 09/982,126

perpendicular to the first linear portion, with the movably supported frame including a handlebar mount, with the mast of the U-shaped handlebar being removably connected to the handlebar mount in a working position and in a storage position, with the U-shaped handlebar in the working position being positioned for gripping by an operator while operating the earthworking machine, and with the mast in the storage position being positioned over the earthworking machine for lifting and hauling, with the first and second legs and the center extending generally horizontally above the earth and with the first and second legs extending behind the center in the working position; a U-shaped control including first and second leg portions extending from opposite sides of a center portion, with the U-shaped control having a shape and size corresponding to the U-shaped handlebar, with the center portion being pivotably mounted relative to the U-shaped handlebar about a control axis spaced in front of and above the center of the U-shaped handlebar, with the U-shaped control being pivotal between an unactuated position with the leg portions extending at an acute angle upward relative to the legs of the U-shaped handlebar and an actuated position with the leg portions engaging the legs of the U-shaped handlebar, with the first linear portion being slideably connected generally vertically to the handlebar mount with the first and second legs extending generally horizontally rearward and the center portion extending generally horizontally in the working position, with the first linear portion being slideably connected at an acute angle to vertical to the handlebar mount with the first and second legs extending forward and on opposite sides of the earthworking machine in the storage position, with the mast having an inner periphery and an outer periphery; a first aperture formed in the mast between the inner and outer peripheries, with the first linear portion having an outer periphery of a size for slideable receipt in the inner periphery of the mast; a bore formed in the first linear portion aligned with the first aperture in the mast when the first linear portion is slideably received in the mast; a lock plate held relative to the outer periphery of the mast to define a gap therebetween; a second aperture formed in the lock plate; a threaded lock extending through the first and second openings, with the threaded lock being threadably received in one of the mast and the lock plate; a pin located in the gap and extending radially from the threaded lock, with the pin preventing the threaded lock from being threaded out of the said one of the mast and the lock plate, with the threaded lock being insertable into the bore to prevent sliding of the first linear portion relative to the mast and being removable from the bore to allow sliding of the first linear portion relative to the mast; a drive shaft rotatably mounted to the movably